

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 2 (previously presented): The arrangement as claimed in claim 10, wherein the recess is upwardly defined by an upper defining surface which is substantially complementary to the upper surface of the projection when the pieces are joined together.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The arrangement as claimed in claims 9 or 11, wherein, at least one of the upper surface of the projection and the upper defining surface of the recess have a slip-preventing or slip-impeding treatment or coating.

Claim 4 (original): The arrangement as claimed in claim 3, wherein the slip-preventing or slip-impeding coating is a flock.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The arrangement as claimed in claims 9, 10 or 11, wherein the tongue has, on its underside, a bevel so that it will be thinner in the vertical direction in a direction out towards its free edge, and wherein the angle which the bevel makes with the plane of extent of the second piece is counter-directed and approximately of the same magnitude as an angle of inclination which is defined by the difference in thickness between the outer and inner edge regions of the projection.

Claim 6 (original): The arrangement as claimed in claim 2, wherein the upper surface of the projection and the upper defining surface of the recess are substantially planar.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The arrangement as claimed in claims 9, 10 or 11, wherein the outer edge of the upper side of the projection is approximately of the same vertical height above the lower surface of the first piece as the lower defining surface to the groove.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The arrangement as claimed in claims 9, 10 or 11, wherein the second piece has, in direct conjunction with the underside of the tongue, an edge surface which is transversely directed in relation to the plane of extent of the flooring piece.

Claim 9 (previously presented): An arrangement which comprises: first and second panel-shaped pieces of flooring for joining together, said pieces resting on a sub-floor and having profiles along mutually meeting edge portions which, on the first piece, consist of a groove and a projection located thereunder, and on the second piece, a tongue insertible in the groove, and also a recess accommodating the projection; wherein said projection, has one continuous upper surface extending from an outer, free edge of the projection to a location substantially right below an open end of the groove, the upper surface having an outer edge and an inner edge and a surface which mates with the recess and slopes from the outer edge downwardly toward the inner edge.

Claim 10 (previously presented): An arrangement which comprises: first and second panel-shaped pieces of flooring for joining together, said pieces resting on a sub-floor and having profiles along mutually meeting edge portions which, on the first piece, consist of a groove and a projection located thereunder, and on the second piece, a tongue insertible in the groove, and also a recess accommodating the projection; wherein said projection has one continuous upper surface extending from an outer, free edge of the projection to a location substantially right below an open end of the groove, wherein the upper surface of the projection mates with a surface defining the recess and at least one of the surface has a slip-preventing coating.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An arrangement which comprises: first and second panel-shaped pieces of flooring for joining together, said pieces resting on a sub-floor and having profiles along mutually meeting edge portions which, on the first piece, consist of a groove and a projection located thereunder, and on the second piece, a tongue insertible in the groove, and a recess located under the tongue for accommodating the projection; wherein said projection has one continuous recess contacting upper surface extending in a downward direction from an outer, free edge of the projection to a location substantially right below an open end of the groove wherein the thickness of the projection at the outer, free edge is greater than the thickness of the

projection at the location below the groove; and wherein the underside of the projection lies flush with the remainder of the underside of the flooring piece.